

# THE GREAT COMMUNICATOR



Continuing Operations





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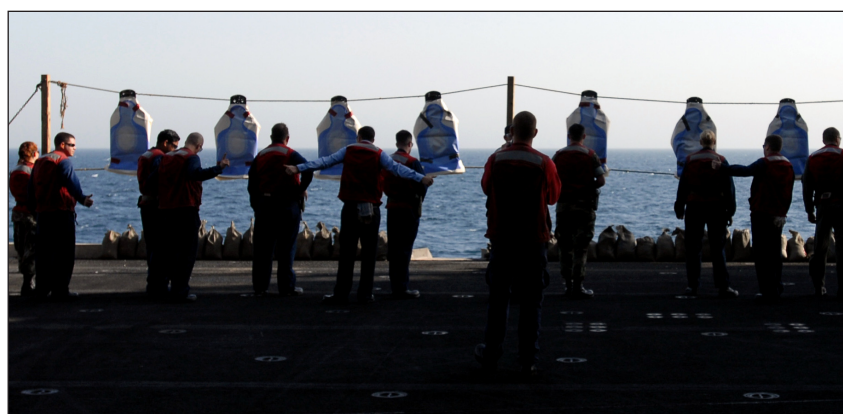


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## Small arms familiarization

Sailors prepare to fire their 9mm Beretta pistols as safety observers indicate a clear firing line during a small arms qualification exercise on an aircraft elevator aboard USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76). Reagan is currently deployed as part of a routine rotation of U.S. maritime forces in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom, as well as conducting Maritime Security Operations (MSO) in the region.

Photo by PH3 Chris Blachly

## On the front cover



**Photo by:**  
PH3 (AW)  
Dominique  
Lasco

*Airman Joe Taylor looks out at the sea while waiting for the order to lower aircraft elevator two on board USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76).*

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## Table of Contents

The Elite of 3M  
maintenance  
page 3

Merchant ship, US  
Navy vessel collide  
Page 3

InsiderdotCom  
This day in history  
Page 4

Around the Fleet  
Page 5

Letter to the Editor  
Reader's Choice  
Just for Laughs  
Movie Schedule  
Page 6

Sailor of the Day  
Page 7

# Reagan's 3M program has an elite membership

By PHAN (AW) Christine Singh

Staff Writer

Amid the colored caps aboard USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) a new shade of battle arises. Not the red of flying squad caps, or the yellow of the Damage Control Training Team (DCTT), but a cover as blue as the sky.

It's the sky blue cover of the Elite Spot Checker Training Team (ESCTT) who are taking Reagan's 3-M program to a new level of excellence.

"We're the first ship to establish an organization like this on board," said Master Chief Electrician's Mate Dennis Reydom, one of the lead coordinators for the team.

Yet, according to team members the program isn't as new to the Reagan as their bright new hats.

"We started up around the first week of October 2005," said Chief Sonar Technician (Surface) Daniel Boyer, a member of ESCTT. "It was at the recommendation of the 3-M Inspection Team right after our assessment that took place in September."

According to Reydom, thought most members are chief petty officers and above there are several other requirements that members of the team are required to meet.

"We basically comply with standards set down by Commander Naval Air Forces (COMNAVAIRFOR)," said Reydom. "Our members, at least one from every department on board, are all volunteers with a significant amount of 3-M experience and are qualified up to 304-Division Officer."

According to members, it's these qualifications that are crucial in them achieving their goals as a team.

"Our goal is to assist the command 3-M program to improve spot checks," said Reydom. "We'll make a schedule once a week, focusing on certain departments, and monitor some of their spot checks, performed by their maintenance persons, usually second-class petty officers, though we've done checks with thirds and even airman before."

According to Reydom and Boyer, there's at least one representative from each department but members are not exclusive to the needs of their individual department.

"Just because an ESCTT member is from that department, doesn't mean that they will

ESCTT... Cont. on page 4



PHAA Benjamin Brossard

Chief Aviation Boatswain Mate (Handling) Martin Hitson observes Electronics Technician 3rd Class Umar Bradshaw during a mock material maintenance management (3M) assessment spot-check aboard USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76).

## Merchant ship, US Navy vessel collide in North Persian Gulf

Navy News Stand

Release

The Kiribati-flagged merchant vessel M/V Rokya 1 and USS McCampbell (DDG 85) collided at 11:09 p.m. local time, March 25, approximately 30 miles southeast of the Iraqi coastline in the North Persian Gulf.

Two U.S. Sailors received minor injuries as a result of the collision. Two crew members from Rokya 1 also received minor injuries and were treated on-scene by McCampbell's independent duty corpsman.

Rokya 1 and McCampbell, an Arleigh

Burke-class guided-missile destroyer, both received damage on the bow and are deemed seaworthy. The cause of the accident is under investigation.

McCampbell, homeported in San Diego and currently on a routine six-month deployment, is one of several coalition assets conducting maritime security operations under the direction of Combined Task Force (CTF) 58. CTF 58 is responsible for the security of the Al Basra and Khawr Al Amaya Iraqi oil terminals, which are the main sources of revenue for the Iraqi reconstruction effort.

## Help Us!

The Great Communicator is always looking for story and photo ideas. If you or your division are doing something newsworthy contact the editor, [sennsd@cvn76.navy.mil](mailto:sennsd@cvn76.navy.mil), and let us know. But remember . . . old news isn't news at all.



# InsiderdotCom

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Guinness World Records™ has become a household name and the global leader in world records. No other enterprise collects, confirms, accredits and presents world record data with the same investment in comprehensiveness and authenticity. This site contains 8 different categories of records -- from the human body to modern society. Each category has a list of sub-categories so you can find exactly what you're looking for. The book has gone on to become a record breaker in its own right with sales of more than 100 million copies in 100 different countries and 37 languages; Guinness world records has it all.

## Vital records

[www.vitalrec.com](http://www.vitalrec.com)

This website explains how to obtain vital records such as birth certificates, death records, marriage licenses and divorce decrees from each state, territory and county of the United States. Take a look at the guidelines and find out exactly how to go about getting what you need step by step. First select a state or territory and then find links to the Vital Records Office and instructions for that particular State or Territory. There is also a link to find your ancestors or where your family name comes from. If you are looking for vital records from a foreign county, there are links to international vital records websites. This site also has links for adoption, genealogy and investigator services.

## This Day in History

### 1958 Khrushchev becomes Soviet Premier

On March 27, 1958, Soviet First Secretary Nikita Khrushchev replaces Nicolay Bulganin as Soviet premier, becoming the first leader since Joseph Stalin to simultaneously hold the USSR's two top offices.

### 1964 Earthquake rocks Alaska

The strongest earthquake in American history, measuring 8.4 on the Richter scale, slams southern Alaska, creating a deadly tsunami. Some 125 people were killed and thousands injured.

## ESCTT

*Continued from page 3*

necessarily be monitoring the spot check. We usually ask someone that they're not used to seeing," said Boyer. "That will give them some outside input on a check that they may have become complacent to."

Members of ESCTT said that even if the spot checker is unaccustomed a certain spot check, they make sure they're acquainted with basic procedure on that particular spot check.

"Usually if one of us isn't familiar with a certain department's spot check we'll print out a Maintenance Requirement Card (MRC) to make sure we're familiar with the steps before we actually stand in on the spot check," said Senior Chief Machinist's Mate Bernardino Arceo.

There are more objectives that are included in spot checking, according to members.

"If it's a larger department that is being observed, there will obviously be more checks than a smaller department, so we'll try to select a spot check that has either tag-outs and/or hazardous materials [HAZMAT] and/or Personal Protective Equipment [PPE], that way we can look at their Planned Maintenance System [PMS] program as well their safety and HAZMAT procedures," said Boyer.

Reydom said that ESCTT is more than just observing one spot check for one department a week though.

"This week, during our 3-M mock assessment which will be lasting about six days," said Reydom. "We'll be performing more than 200 spot checks ship-wide. So we'll be doing around 33 spot checks a day."

ESCTT will be an enduring project according to Reydom, even after their mock assessment is over.

"This is an ongoing assessment," said Reydom. "It'll always be going on so that we can continue to maintain proficiency through monitoring departments, division officers and work-center supervisors to make sure they're as knowledgeable as possible about maintenance."

## WANTED CAPTIONS



Calling all comedians! So you think you're pretty funny, huh? Come up with an amusing, *appropriate* caption for this photo and send it to [sennsd@cvm76.navy.mil](mailto:sennsd@cvm76.navy.mil) with "Caption Contest" in the subject line. The winning caption will be posted in the next issue.

### LAST ISSUE'S WINNERS

#### FIRST

I know the ship is low on water, but doing my laundry like this is going to kill me.

ATCS (AW/SW) Terrence McClain  
AIMD/IM3

#### SECOND

Really guys, I don't think this was worth it just to get in the caption contest.

ET2 Scott Trantham  
GSD/CS-3



#### THIRD

No Submissions





## Airborne Mine Countermeasures Community

### Hosts Seminar to Advance Tactics

By Cindy Corbin Weilert,  
Naval Surface Warfare  
Center Panama City  
Tactics Branch

PANAMA CITY, Fla.

(NNS) -- Sponsored by the Mine Warfare Program Office, the seventh Airborne Mine Countermeasures (AMCM) Advanced Tactics Continuum was held at the Naval Surface Warfare Center Panama City (NSWC PC) March 13-17.

According to NSWC PC's Deputy Director of the Analysis and Assessment Directorate, Brenna Williams, the AMCM Continuum was specially designed for AMCM tactics officers and personnel.

### Aviation Returns to Ford Island

By JO2 Devin Wright,  
Commander, Navy Region  
Hawaii Public Affairs

PEARL HARBOR, Hawaii (NNS) -- The Pacific Aviation Museum held a groundbreaking ceremony March 21 for the restoration of Hangar 37 at historic Ford Island here.

The museum will include aircraft from the World War II era, the Korean War,

Vietnam War and Cold War as well as modern air power.

## CNO, NAE Leaders Discuss Navy Priorities with Industry Leaders

From Naval Air Systems  
Command Public Affairs

PATUXENT RIVER, Md. (NNS) -- Chief of Naval Operations Adm. Mike Mullen spoke March 8 at this year's Naval Aviation Enterprise Symposium to 300 naval aviation and industry leaders about priorities in today's Navy.

The NAE is a command partnership designed to resolve issues affecting its members, including Commander, Naval Air Forces, Naval Education and Training Command, Naval Air Systems Command, Naval Sea Systems Command, Naval Supply Systems Command and the Naval Inventory Control Point.

## Kitty Hawk Sailors Train to Improve Liberty Performance

By JO2 Christopher  
Koons, USS Kitty Hawk  
Public Affairs

YOKOSUKA, Japan (NNS) -- USS Kitty Hawk

(CV 63) Sailors took another step in remaining good neighbors with the local Yokosuka community by attending Performance Enhancement Training March 16 and 21 at the Fleet Theater on Commander, Fleet Activities Yokosuka.

Kitty Hawk leadership has taken many steps to mitigate liberty incidents, such as using written daily liberty plans and use of liberty buddies. Several performance enhancement sessions were held to reach Sailors in smaller groups.

## Naval Air Training Aligns with Naval Air Forces

From Commander, Naval  
Air Forces Public Affairs

SAN DIEGO (NNS) -- Chief of Naval Air Training (CNATRA), headquartered in Corpus Christi, Texas, began to align under the San Diego-based Commander, Naval Air Forces (CNAF) in March as part of the Naval Aviation Enterprise's (NAE) continuing efforts to create greater efficiency and synchronization while increasing aviation war-fighting readiness.

The alignment will integrate flight training budgets into the overall NAE budgets proposed for fiscal year 2007. This will enable naval aviation to

better mitigate shortfalls in one area of the enterprise with savings generated in another.

## Navy Helping Sailors Save Money, Environment

By PHAN (SW) Orlando  
Ramos, Fleet Public  
Affairs Center, Pacific  
CORONADO, Calif.

(NNS) -- Sailors and Department of the Navy employees can save money by participating in an innovative program that can reduce traffic and help the environment.

The Transportation Incentive Program (TIP) offers active-duty Sailors, Marines and DoN civilian employees vouchers to purchase monthly public transportation passes. The vouchers can also be used toward other transportation services, such as vanpools or commuter trains.

## Norfolk Military, Civilians Unite to Prevent Domestic Violence

By PHAN Seth Scarlett,  
Fleet Public Affairs Center  
Atlantic

NORFOLK (NNS) -- Military leaders from the Navy, Marine Corps,

Army, Coast Guard and Air Force joined civic leaders and mayors from seven Hampton Roads cities March 21 to sign a memorandum of understanding establishing the Hampton Roads Military and Civilian Family Violence Prevention Council.

A community collaboration to share information and resources, the council's goal is to increase communication in the community and military to reduce and prevent cases of domestic violence.

## U.S. 7th Fleet Band Rocks in the ROK

By Lt. j.g. Jessica  
L. Gandy, Commander,  
U.S. Naval Forces Korea  
Public Affairs

BUSAN, Republic of Korea (NNS) -- Armed with their instruments and smiles before a packed standing-room-only crowd at the Korea Freedom League Hall (KFL), the U.S. 7th Fleet Band completed the last venue of its two-month underway period around the western Pacific March 20 in Busan, the last stop of the Fleet's USS Blue Ridge (LCC 19) before leaving for its homeport in Yokosuka, Japan.



# READER'S CHOICE

So far, what's  
been your favor-  
ite part of cruise?



**AN Jonathon Wilkins**  
"Being 20 years old and  
seeing more things than my  
friends could imagine!"



**A01 (AW) James Foscett**  
"The Safari tour in Dubai."



**A03 Paul Castaneda**  
"The money!"



**BM3 Lamont Mangum**  
"Traveling from the East  
coast to a foreign country."

## Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I just wanted to drop you a letter about the CMC's new policy of naming a head, passageway and ladder of the week. I think this is the greatest thing ever! Everyone on the ship has the opportunity to earn "head of the line privileges." That really means a lot to us who are E-3 and below. We are the ones doing most of the cleaning, so we should be the ones to get the reward and finally someone has recognized this! Way to go CMC! I haven't won the award yet, but when I do I will definitely utilize my "head of the line privileges."

Caught the "Spirit of 76"

Dear Caught,

Hopefully your enthusiasm will be shared by the rest of the crew. The CMC's new program is definitely a way to recognize hard-working Sailors. Having your name announced during CO's call is a great way to get your division recognized. By the way, pick me up some snacks at the ship's store when you use your "head of the line" privileges.

The Editor

## Sempertoons by Charles Wolf



## Private Murphy by Mark Baker



## Today's Movies

Ch. 2 - North  
Country  
Ch. 3 - 40 Year Old  
Virgin  
Ch. 4 - Unleashed  
Ch. 5 - Suspect  
Zero

Ch. 2 - 9 Heart  
Huckabees  
Ch. 3 - Garden State  
Ch. 4 - Enter the  
Dragon  
Ch. 5 - Dickie  
Roberts: Child Star

## Tomorrow's Movies

Ch. 2 - The Fighting  
Temptations  
Ch. 3 - Lara Croft 2:  
The Cradle of Life  
Ch. 4 - Daddy Day  
Care  
Ch. 5 - A Guy Thing

Ch. 2 - Batman  
Ch. 3 - Abandon  
Ch. 4 - Tango and  
Cash  
Ch. 5 - How to Deal

## Just for Laughs

Comics provided by  
Military.com

## Ricky's Tour by Mike Jones





# Anchored



PHAN (AW) Kathleen Gorby

USS Ronald Reagan (CVN 76) drops anchor Mar. 25 in the Arabian Gulf during anchoring drills. Unknown to some crew members, Reagan's anchors weigh 60,000 lbs. each and once belonged to USS Ranger (CV 61).

## SHIP'S STORE HOURS

### "FLYING DUTCHMAN"

3-148-O-Q

**MON-SAT**

0915-1400

1530-2000

**SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS**

1200-1700

### "7-ELEVEN"

02-190-4-Q

**MON-SAT**

0915-1600

1730-2200

2330-0530

**SUNDAYS AND HOLIDAYS**

1700-2200


**Department:**

Weapons

**Job Title:** None**Where are you from?**

Chicago, Ill.

**What inspires you?** Music and my family**Why did you join the Navy?**

Travel

**Who is responsible for your success?** God**What piece of advice would you pass on to others?**

Always look at the big picture



AN Dejon Rivers  
March 24, 2006



AMEAN Scot Bunge  
March 25, 2006

**Department:**

VFA-115

**Job Title:** None**Where are you from?**

Monroe, Mich.

**What inspires you?** My father**Why did you join the Navy?**

To get on track

**Who is responsible for your success?** My parents**What piece of advice would you pass on to others?** Live life to the fullest



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